

## Message Text

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SUBJECT: NO PARTY SHIFTS IN RSFSR; SHAKEUPS IN GEORGIA AND  
TURKMENISTAN

1. SUMMARY: NO CHANGES IN RSFSR OBLAST PARTY LEADERSHIP HAVE YET APPEARED IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF PARTY ELECTIONS WHICH SUGGESTS THAT A POLICY OF NO POLITICAL SHIFTS IN THE MOST IMPORTANT SOVIET REPUBLIC MAY BE IN EFFECT. HOWEVER, SHAKEUPS HAVE OCCURRED IN GEORGIA AND TURKMENISTAN. THE GEORGIAN SHIFT BEARS A POLITICAL FLAVOR WHILE CORRUPTION IS PROBABLY THE ISSUE IN TURKMENISTAN. THE EFFECT ON THE NATIONAL POLITICAL PICTURE IS PROBABLY SMALL, HOWEVER.

2. NO CHANGES IN FIRST SECRETARIES OF RSFSR OBLAST PARTY COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN NOTED IN THE CENTRAL PRESS SINCE THE SERIES OF PARTY CONFERENCES BEGAN ON DECEMBER 10 IN PENZA OBLAST. WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME AND OPPORTUNITY TO SHAKE UP OBLAST PARTY LEADERSHIPS IN THE RSFSR OBLASTS WHICH HAVE NOT YET MET, IT APPEARS THAT A POLICY OF NO MAJOR CHANGE IN THE LOCAL POLITICAL LEADERSHIP OF THE RSFSR MAY BE IN EFFECT UNTIL THE 25TH PARTY CONGRESS OPENS.

3. HOWEVER, SOME CHANGES ARE BEING MADE IN SOME OF THE NON-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RUSSIAN REPUBLICS, I.E., GEORGIA AND TURKMENISTAN. THE CHANGES

IN GEORGIA ARE OBVIOUSLY POLITICAL, BUT AN ATTEMPT IS APPARENTLY BEING MADE TO PAPER OVER THE TRUE NATURE OF THE CHANGES. CORRUPTION PROBABLY IS THE ISSUE BEHIND CHANGES IN TURKMENISTAN. THE EFFECT ON NATIONAL POLITICS CANNOT BE ASSESSED AT THIS TIME, BUT THE REMOVAL OF TWO REPUBLIC PRIME MINISTERS WILL AFFECT THE COMPOSITION OF THE NEW CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE ELECTED AT THE 25TH PARTY CONGRESS SINCE REPUBLIC PREMIERS RATE MEMBERSHIP ON THAT BODY.

4. A PLENUM OF THE TURKMEN CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON DECEMBER 16 REMOVED PREMIER O.N. ORAZMUKHAMEDOV FOR "SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS AT WORK AND IN HIS PERSONAL CONDUCT." THE INDICATION THAT CORRUPTION IS BEHIND THE OUSTER OF THE 47-YEAR OLD PREMIER WAS GIVEN BY THE ASSOCIATED OUSTER OF KH. KARAYEV FROM THE POST OF CHAIRMAN OF THE TURKMEN CNTRAL COMMITTEE'S STANDING COMMISSION FOR THE WORK OF ENTERPRISES AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SPHERE OF CONSUMER SERVICES. B. YAZKULIYEV WAS INSTALLED AS A MEMBER OF THE TURKMEN BURO AND ON DECEMBER 17 WAS NAMED PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER. M. MOLLAYEVA REPLACED CH. A. ATAYEV AS A TURKMEN PARTY SECRETARY AND BURO MEMBER.

5. A GEORGIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM ON DECEMBER 16 DROPPED THE 63-YEAR OLD PREMIER G.D. DZHAVAKHISHVILI FROM MEMBERSHIP ON THE GEORGIAN BURO SINCE HE WAS GOING ON PENSION. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY DZHAVAKHISHVILI MADE A BRIEF FAREWELL SPEECH AT THE GEORGIAN SUPREME SOVIET WHICH RETIRED HIM AS PREMIER AND THEN ELECTED HIM A MEMBER OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE GEORGIAN SUPREME SOVIET. ZURAB A. PATARADZE WAS TRANSFERRED FROM THE POST OF GEORGIAN PARTY SECRETARY TO THE PREMIERSHIP. Z.A. CHKHEIDZE WAS TRANSFERRED FROM HIS POST AS MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS TO BECOME A GEORGIAN PARTY SECRETARY. SH. V. KARKARASHVILI WAS SHUNTED FROM THE IMPORTANT POST OF HEAD OF THE PARTY ORGANIZATIONAL WORK SECTION OF THE GEORGIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO A DEAD-END JOB AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY COMMISSION. S.YE. KHABEISHVILI WAS BROUGHT INTO THE PARTY ORGANIZATIONAL WORD SECTION.

6. WHILE THE REMOVAL OF ZHAVAKHASHVILI COULD BE BASED ON POLITICAL OR HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS, HE HAS NOT BEEN PUBLICLY DISGRACED AFTER 22 YEARS AS THE GEORGIAN PREMIER. NEVERTHELESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HE WILL LOSE HIS NATIONAL PARTY RANK. THE CHANGES IN THE KEY PARTY PERSONNEL SLOT SUGGEST THAT POLITICAL REASONS MAY BE BEHIND THESWITCH IN PREMIERS. FIRST SECRETARY SHEVARDNADZE MAY HAVE FOUND THAT IT WAS NECESSARY IN HIS ANTI-CORREUPTION CAMPAIGN TO DISPOSE OF ONE OF THE MAJOR HOLDOVERS FROM THE ERA OF HIS PREDECESSOR, V.P. MZHAVANADZE. STOESEL

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